

Appl. No. 09/715,870
Amdt. dated December 23, 2003
Reply to Office action of August 26, 2003

REMARKS

Claims 8 and 10 have been amended. Claims 1-7, 11-14, 17, 18, 20, 22-25, 28 and 29 have been cancelled. New claims 52-57 have been added. New claims 52-57 are supported by the specification, at least at page 4, line 1 through page 6, line 10; and by the Examples, page 9, line 20 through page 11, line 19. No new matter has been added. Claims 8, 10, 19, 26, 27 and 52-57 are pending in this application.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

The rejections of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102 over Wang et al. (*Macromol. Rapid Commun.*, 18, 509-514 (1997)) and under 35 U.S.C. § 102 over Stockton et al. (*Macromol. Rapid Commun.*, 1997, 18, 509-514) have been obviated by appropriate amendment. Claim 8 has been rewritten in independent form, and claim 10 has been amended to depend from claim 8. Claims 1-7, 11-14, 17, 18, 20, 22-25, 28 and 29 have been cancelled without prejudice as to their pursuit in a continuation or divisional application.

Applicants would like to thank Examiner Zacharia for indicating that claims 8, 19, 26 and 27 contain allowable subject matter. Claims 10, 19, 26, 27 and 52-57 are ultimately dependent on independent claim 8. Neither Wang et al. nor Stockton et al. disclose, teach or suggest a film or a surface as recited in the claims. Accordingly, pending claims 8, 10, 19, 26, 27 and 52-57 are allowable over the cited references.

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Conclusion

In conclusion, all of the grounds raised in the present Office Action for rejecting the application are believed to be overcome or rendered moot based on the remarks above. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that all of the presently presented claims are in form for allowance, and such action is requested in due course. Should the Examiner feel a discussion would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is kindly invited to contact the undersigned.

Also submitted at this time is a Petition For Extension of Time for one (1) month.

Respectfully submitted,

12/23/03


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